



# Loudoun County Sheriff's Office

## Crime Prevention Unit



### NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER

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#### Important Numbers:

- \* **Emergency 911**
- \* **Non-Emergency**  
703-777-1021  
703-777-0445
- \* **Poison Control**  
1-800-222-1222
- \* **Animal Control**  
703-777-0406
- \* **Sheriff's Office Admin**  
703-777-0407
- \* **Narcotic Tip Line**  
703-779-0552
- \* **Crime Solvers**  
703-777-1919

#### Issue 18

April 1, 2010

### Spring Time!!!

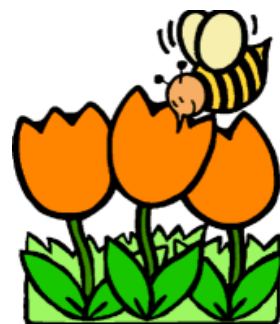
Some people will be planning to take a well deserved holiday during this time of the year. Do not forget that when you wish to take a vacation plan on doing some basic crime prevention to help protect your property.

The Loudoun County Sheriff's Office would like to offer citizens a few safety tips to make the Spring Break a bit safer.

1. Tell a trusted neighbor when you will be away. Have them pick up your mail, newspapers, and keep an extra eye out on your property.
2. Make your home look as if it is occupied. Have your lights on timers that have random on-off switches.
3. If you have an automatic garage door opener make sure you lock, unplug, or turn the power off to it. Also a good idea would be to use the manual lock.

4. You can call the Sheriff's Office non-emergency number and ask for a patrol unit to check on your house while you are away.

5. Secure all vehicles that will be left at home and remove all small electronics, garage door openers, and money from those vehicles.
6. Make sure the yard is taken care of (grass mowed and yard cleaned) as this can be a good indicator of whether or not the owner is away.



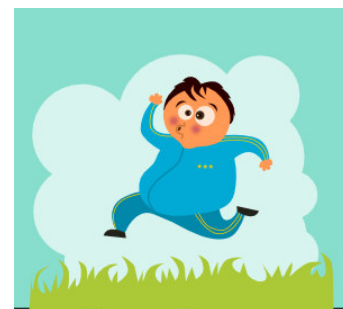
### Walking, Jogging, and Running Safety

Loudoun County Sheriff's Office Crime Prevention Unit has been getting questions about how to keep safe when outside running, jogging and walking.

1. One of the main things would be pay attention to your surroundings and don't get complacent.
2. Stay in groups.
3. Tell people where you are going and when to expect you back.
4. Carry a cell phone and an Id with you.
5. Try to only go out in the daylight hours.
6. Walk, jog, or run on well lit and well traveled pathways.
7. Vary your walking/

running paths.

8. Report any suspicious activity.



## Frequently Asked Questions

If you would like to have a question answered, please e-mail the question to  
**Nathaniel.Payne@loudoun.gov** or **James.Spurlock@loudoun.gov**

## Spring Cleaning and Residential Security

With warmer weather upon us, soon we will be tasked with the weekly yard work and maintenance. Please remember the following tips to help keep your home safe from burglars.

1. Bushes and shrubs should not be allowed to grow higher than 24 inches or higher than the lower ledge of a first floor window.
2. A well kept yard is a deterrent for burglars. Try to keep grass mowed and bushes trimmed.
3. Check outside lights to

make sure they are working properly.

4. Keep larger trees limbs from hanging below six feet from the ground. You want your house to be visible by your neighbors so they can call in suspicious persons they may see around your house.

5. Lastly and most important, get out and get to know your neighbors. A trusted relationship with a few neighbors goes a long way in keeping your community safe.



## Home Security Inspections

As a reminder to everyone, Loudoun County Sheriff's Office offers home security inspections for free. The inspection will consist of a deputy walk through of the residence. After the walk through, a deputy will provide a report that will give you recommendations about improving the security in your residence. This can be

scheduled by calling Deputy Specialist Payne at 703-777-0477 or Deputy Specialist Spurlock at 703-771-5749.



## Warm up

As the weather gets warmer normally the crime rate picks up. Also as the economy gets worse the crime rates will increase. Loudoun County Crime Prevention wants all citizens to be aware of this and be extra vigilant in the coming months. Please call in any suspicious activity to the Sheriff's Office. Let's all plan on having a fun and safe summer.



## Upcoming Events

**April 13th at 700pm: Ashburn Village, Woods Rec. Center - Identity Theft**

**April 26th at 700pm: Round Hill Elementary— Introduction to Neighborhood Watch**